

12/21

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Takashi Nakayama

Serial No.: 09/766,651

Group Art Unit: 2616

Filed: January 23, 2001

Examiner: Vent, Jamie J.

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR OUTPUTTING IMAGE DATA

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION AND SUBMISSION OF
VERIFIED ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT**

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 1, 2006, Applicant states as follows:

REMARKS

Claims 1-50 are all the claims presently pending in the application.

Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-17, 20-37 and 40-49 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamauchi et al. (U. S. Patent No. 6,020,982) in view of Nagatomo et al. (U. S. Patent No. 6,717,522). **Claims 3, 8, 18-19, 38-39 and 50** stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamauchi in view of Nagatomo and further in view of Litwin (U. S. Patent No. 6,374,228).

Applicant respectfully submits that these references would not have been combined as alleged by the Examiner and moreover, even if combined as alleged by the Examiner, the alleged combination would not teach or suggest each and every feature of the claimed invention.

In addition, although the alleged references do not teach or suggest the invention, in an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicant would point out that the present Application has a

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foreign priority date (January 25, 2000) which is prior to the U. S. filing date (June 16, 2000) of Nagatomo.

Submitted herewith is a verified English translation of the foreign priority document (JP 2000-017978) for the present Application. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Nagatomo is not prior art against the claimed invention.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-50, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are allowable, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Such action would be appreciated.

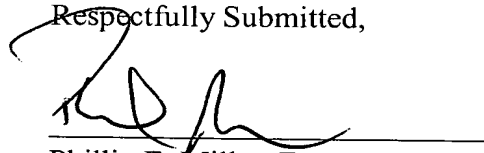
Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary for allowance in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency in fees, including extension of time fees, or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Date:

10/21/06

Respectfully Submitted,



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